(a) the total number of villages so far covered by telephone and postal services separately in the State of Haryana and by when all the villages are likely to be covered with these two services;

(b) how many towns in the State of Haryana have Electronic Telephone Exchanges and by when all the exchanges in Haryana will be converted into Electronic Exchanges; and

(c) the total number of telephones in the State of Haryana in rural and urban areas separately and what is the target for the release of new connections during 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) (i) The total number of villages in Haryana covered with public telephone service upto 31.01.1996 is 5127. All the villages are likely to have such service by the year 1997.

(ii) The total number of villages in Haryana with post office service upto 31.01.1996 is 2270. There is no such plan to cover all the villages with post office service. However, delivery of mails is being done daily in all the villages of Haryana.

(b) 642 towns in the State of Haryana have Electronic Telephone Exchanges upto 31.01.1996. All the exchanges in Haryana will be converted into Electronic Exchanges progressively by 31.03.1997.

(c) Total number of telephones in the State of Haryana as on 31.01.1996 is 268836, out of which 225905 are provided in urban and 42931 in rural areas respectively. The target for release of new connections during 1996-97 is 69600.

MOUs Signed between India and Canada for the Promotion of Trade

598. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of agreements and MOUs were signed during the recent visit of Canadian Prime Minister to India in January this year; for mutual cooperation and promotion of trade etc. between the two countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether during the talks, he insisted on imposition of social clause like child labour restrictions, if so, the details in this regard and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, S*ir.

(b) An Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation, and MOUs for cooperation in the sectors of Surface Transport, Telecommunications and Heavy Oil were signed at the Governmental level. 78 commercial agreements valued at C$ 3.39 billion (Rs. 8692 crores) including business contracts, MOUs and Letters of Intent were signed between Indian and Canadian companies during the visit. These covered the sectors of power, transporation, environment, telecommunications, computer software, food processing, medical equipment and financial services.

(c) The Canadian Prime Minister referred to the tragedy of child labour and the economic exploitation of children in his address to the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry on January 13, 1996. During bilateral talks, the Canadian Premier was briefed on the various measures that are being taken to eliminate child labour in India starting with the prohibition of child labour in hazardous industries.

Procurement of Pair Gain System

599. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government procured subscriber carrier (pair gain system) from a manufacturer in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, how many systems have been procured and at what cost;

(c) how many of these systems have been installed till 31st December, 1995 and are in operation; ,

(d) what has been the performance of these systems in regard to quality and reliability;

(e) whether any repeat order has been placed for these systems; and

(0 if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir. The department has procured pair gain systems from two, manufacturers of Himachal Pradesh namely M/s. Himachal Futuristic Communications Ltd. (M/s. HFCL), Solan and M/s. Ramsan Communications Ltd. (M/s. RCL), Shogi.

(b) The information is given below:

Name of Supplier	System capacity procured till 31.12.95	No. of systems	Total cost Rs. in crores
HFCL	1+1	4,237 1	78.76 16.9
	1+7	10,456	
	1+7	J 2,464	

(c) Most of the procured systems are installed and operational but their number at any point is difficult to access as their usage is transient in nature.

(d) No complaint has been received.

(e) and (f)The requirement of these systems being piecemeal, field units have been authorised to purchase the limited number of systems as and when required from approved suppliers.

Posting and Transfer of Staff by MTNL

600. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the Offices and Departments in Delhi where MTNL is functioning as an allied service;

(b) the policy and criteria for posting and transfer of staff and officers at such places;

(c) whether Government are aware that posting at one place for a long period results into malpractices; and

(d) the steps being taken to avoid long stay of officers and staff at one place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) MTNL took over the management, control and operation of the public telecom network except public telegraph in the state of Delhi w.e.f. 01.04.86.

(b) All the employees working in MTNL, Delhi are on deemed deputation from the DoT. In the case of Group 'A & 'b' employees, DoT is the appointing/cadre controlling authority. In respect of Group 'C & 'D' employees at Delhi, the appointing/cadre controlling authority is CGM (NTR), Delhi. However, MTNL Corporate Office has directly recruited about 70 employees. In case of these employees, transfers are done on the basis of tenure and in the interest of service — within Delhi. For Group 'A' & 'B' employees borne on the strength of DoT, transfers are ordered by DoT as per an all India policy, relating to tenure.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Rotational transfers are ordered from time to time on the basis of continuous stay of an officer at one place subject to exigencies of service.

Pending Compensation Cases

601. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UN had settled all the claims of Indians in respect of compensation towards damages suffered by Indians or Indian companies during the Gulf War;

(b) if not, whether there are any claims of Indians or Indian companies still pending with the UN; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government to settle the claims?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The United Nations Compensation